

PRESSRELEASE

City of Sedona - 102 Roadrunner Drive - Sedona, AZ 86336

For Immediate Release

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Water Conservation Is Something We Should All Practice

As residents of a desert climate, we all have a responsibility to conserve our limited water resources, especially during the hot summer months. Like many things around us, we seldom appreciate what seems so plentiful and easy to obtain. And what could be more plentiful than water? To get water all we do is turn on the faucet and its there, ready to use. But, how many of us really understand our water?

Water is a limited resource that shouldn't be wasted. Just 1% of the entire water supply in the world is available for human use. The rest is either salty or locked in ice caps and glaciers. This means that the relatively small 1% of water meets all the world's requirements from agricultural, manufacturing, community and personal household and sanitation needs. We actually drink very little of our processed drinking water; around 1% of all treated water. The rest goes on landscaping, in washing machines, and down toilets and drains!

Water conservation can be a way for citizens to help save a valuable resource while at the same time save money. You pay for every drop of water, whether it's used wisely or not. Water conservation is something we should all practice. When you conserve water, you also save on other services. When you use less hot water, there is less energy needed to heat that water, thereby reducing your gas and electric bill. You are also helping the environment by helping ease the burden on water storage, distribution and treatment facilities.

The following are some simple ways to reduce your water consumption without really altering your lifestyle. A good water conservation program is mostly a matter of using common sense and taking the time to think about water and how you use it. Get your entire family involved in water conservation, since the habits learned at an early age will make your children better environmental citizens in the future.

Here are a few suggestions for water conservation:

- Do not use the toilet for trash disposal
- Take shorter showers
- Do not let the water run while shaving or brushing teeth

- Run the clothes washer and dishwasher only when full
- Keep a bottle of drinking water in the refrigerator. Running tap water to cool it off for drinking is wasteful
- Use the garbage disposal sparingly. Compost instead and save gallons every time
- Check your water meter and bill to track your water usage
- Don't let the faucet run when cleaning vegetables or washing dishes. Rinse them in a stoppered sink or pan of clean water
- Water outside landscaping before sunrise or after sunset
- Minimize the size of lawns or use water conservative grass such as "Buffalo Grass"

For more information, contact Audree Juhlin, Community Development Department at 204-7107.